

Most of our February events were run in lovely warm weather. However, March has blown in with a vengeance – unfortunately DEVON’s event at Ashclyst Forest had to be cancelled.

Congratulations to the winners of the British Night Championships, and especially to the M80 champion, Arthur Boyt KERNO.

Please send news of your training courses, publicity for future events, and anything else from clubs that needs to be seen across the region, to :
christine.vince2@btinternet.com

Christine Vince KERNO

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Courses

Proposed Courses

Alan Simpson is running a Level B Organisers' Course on Wednesday 20th March 2019 at Ilington Village Hall. The course is supported by SWOA and is open to all South West clubs. Devon OC is particularly keen to see people develop their skills as event officials. Please sign up if you fit the bill!

Please download the details from the News page of the DEVON website.

Coaching

BOK will be running another of their successful Track to Terrain courses, starting on Tuesday 30th April at Ashton Court.

Colour Coded Awards

To qualify you must be within the first 50% of all starters or within 1½ times the winner's time in the results on the same colour course, 3 times in any 2 years.

For WHITE courses you only need to complete the course 3 times.

STRING COURSE (PURPLE) is for any young person who does not already hold any other colour award, and who has completed 3 string courses.

To obtain a colour coded badge award please let me have the 3 dates on which you qualified (anywhere in Britain). Badges cost £1.50 for Juniors (20 & under) or £2.50 for Seniors (21 & over) – please note the change in price, as SWOA has ordered some new badges (these prices are subsidised by SWOA). If applying by post, please make cheques payable to SWOA and enclose a stamped addressed envelope. My address is: 34, Westfield House, Cote Lane, Bristol BS9 3TJ. Sorry no E-mail.

Anne Donnell BOK

SWOA News

The next SWOA committee meeting will be held on Wednesday 13th March 2019 at The Corner House Hotel TA1 4DQ in Taunton.

Grants. All clubs and members are reminded that requests for SWOA grants must be made to the SWOA treasurer before the event.

Helen Kelsey BOK has taken over from Katy Dyer BOK as SWOA Secretary, as of 1st January.

SWOA Fixtures Secretary: would anyone like to take on this interesting post? Richard Sansbury is willing to train up a replacement.

Galoppen League

The discussion on the proposal to change the Galoppen League is coming to an end. Following the last SWOA committee meeting, the SWOA chairman sent a paper to club chairmen and secretaries, updating them on the responses received to date. We expect to reach a decision at the next SWOA committee meeting in March. Some interesting comments have been made; the most pertinent query the number of scores to count in order to win one of the colours. Thanks to everyone who provided comments.

- The Galoppen League as currently configured has 9 events (one per club); therefore the best five scores represent one more than half.
- If SW clubs register up to two Regional events each year for the League, then there could be 18 events; if so, the number of counting events would have to be $(\text{half} + 1) = 10$.
- So winning contenders would have to race at 10 events, not five as at present.
- With up to 18 events, there could very well be clashes between Regional League events; although these would not be additions to the calendar, it is very full already.

A full report of all club comments will be presented to the SWOA committee meeting on 13th March.

JK 2021

JK 2021 is coming to the SW! We have made most of the senior appointments. However, we need Team Leaders for various tasks so, if you are interested, please contact Christine Vince or Roger Hargreaves on rogerh9999@hotmail.co.uk as soon as possible. There is a JK progress report attached to the latest SWOA minutes.

SW Sprint Championships, 2nd June 2019 at Exeter University

The SWOA Chairman has been approached by several Controllers concerning the fairness of the current competition rules (which are on the SWOA website). In particular, whether the Prologue and Final results should be separate or combined. If the Prologue is treated as a separate race (and the results used only to define the starting order of the Final), then there is no penalty if, for whatever reason, a competitor chooses to have an 'easy' Prologue race; this produces an inherent unfairness.

The Chairman has consulted the SWOA committee and they have decided that, for 2019, the results of both the Prologue and the Final shall be combined to find the SW Sprints Champion in the various age classes.

BOF News

A quick reminder. If you haven't yet renewed your membership then the easiest way to renew is online. Go to the British Orienteering website www.britishorienteering.org.uk and click on the 'Log in' button at the top right-hand side of the screen. If you have forgotten your password click on the 'Forgotten Password' link or contact National Office on 01629 583037. Then click on 'My Settings' button on the left-hand side of the screen. If you prefer you can always pay by cheque or give the office a call.

BOF AGM - Friday 19th April 2019 at 5pm. Venue: Aldershot Garrison Sports Centre, Rawlinson Road, Aldershot, Hampshire, GU11 2LQ on Friday 19th April 2019 at 17:00. Please forward any items for inclusion on the agenda to the Chief Executive Peter Hart: Email: PHart@britishorienteering.org.uk by: Wednesday 27th February 2019.

Further details of the business of the AGM, including the Agenda, and Voting by Proxy form, will be posted on British Orienteering's website on or before: Monday 25th March 2019.

World Orienteering Day 2019. This year, events to celebrate World Orienteering Day can be held at any time during the week of 15th-21st May. More details on the BOF website [here](#).

Events

10th March – SARUM Saunter, Great Ridge, Fonthill

17th March – CompassSport Heat, QO, The Slades, Quantock Hills

24th March – DEVON League, River Dart Country Park nr Ashburton

24th March – NGOC League, Parkend, Lydney

Southern Championships Weekend

30th March – NGOC Middle distance race, Knockalls Inclosure

31st March – The Mike Nelson BOK Trot, Moseley Green West and Cannop Ponds South

7th April – NWO Galoppen + YBT qualifier, Savernake Forest, Marlborough

7th April – KERNO League, Poldice, Redruth

13th April – NGOC League, Cleeve Hill nr Cheltenham

14th April – SARUM Urban, Tisbury

JK 2019

19th – 22nd April 2019

Entries are now open for the SCOA JK

Closing date is 24th March

28th April – KERNO League, Hustyn nr Wadebridge

5th May – WSX Galoppen, Rushmore nr Shaftesbury

Scottish 6 Days 2019

28 July to 3 August 2019

Entries are now open for Strathearn 2019

SWOA OFFICIALS

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